

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-4, 6-13, and 16-21 are pending in this application. Please cancel claims 5 and 14-15 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 12, 13, and 17-20, and add new claim 21 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A packaging apparatus, comprising:
 - a charging device for charging a granular object ~~having adsorption ability~~ into a storage bag having an open end, the granular object being constituted to adsorb a gas;
 - an air removing device for expelling air from the storage bag into which the granular object has been charged; [[and]]
 - a sealing device for sealing the open end of the storage bag from which the air has been expelled; and
 - a heating device for heating the granular object before the storage bag is sealed,wherein the sealing device is actuated with a slight delay after the air has been expelled from the storage bag by the air removing device.
2. (Original) The packaging apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the storage bag is formed by sealing a tube transversely.
3. (Previously Presented) The packaging apparatus of Claim 1-~~or~~ 2, wherein the air removing device pinches the storage bag, into which the granular object has been charged, to expel air therefrom.
4. (Currently Amended) The packaging apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the granular object ~~having adsorption ability~~ is spherical adsorptive carbon.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) A packaging apparatus, comprising:
 - a sealing device for sealing a tube transversely at a first position;
 - a hopper for storing a granular object constituted to adsorb a gas, the hopper

having a heating device for heating the granular object stored in the hopper;

a charging device for charging [[a]] the heated granular object into the tube sealed at the first position; and

a pinching device for pinching the tube into which the granular object has been charged,

wherein the tube is sealed transversely at a second position opposite the first position with respect to the pinched part[[;]], and

wherein the sealing device is actuated with a slight delay after the pinching device has been actuated.

7. (Original) The packaging apparatus of Claim 6, further comprising:
 - a first driving mechanism for driving the pinching device;
 - a second driving mechanism different from the first driving mechanism for driving the sealing device; and
 - a control unit for controlling the driving of the first driving mechanism and the second driving mechanism.
8. (Previously Presented) The packaging apparatus of Claim 6, wherein a face for pinching the tube is elastic and of a shape corresponding to a shape of tube containing the granular object.
9. (Currently Amended) A measuring and packaging apparatus for measuring and packaging a granular object constituted to adsorb a gas, comprising:
 - a packaging apparatus of Claim 1; and
 - a measuring device for measuring the granular object to be supplied to the packaging apparatus.
10. (Original) A method for producing a package, comprising the steps of: supplying a granular object to the measuring and packaging apparatus according to Claim 9;
 - measuring the granular object with the measuring device; and
 - packaging the measured granular object with the packaging apparatus.

11. (Previously Presented) The packaging apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the air removing device pinches the storage bag, into which the granular object has been charged, to expel air therefrom.
12. (Currently Amended) The packaging apparatus of Claim 2, wherein the granular object ~~having adsorption ability~~ is spherical adsorptive carbon.
13. (Currently Amended) The packaging apparatus of Claim 3, wherein the granular object ~~having adsorption ability~~ is spherical adsorptive carbon.
- 14-15. (Canceled)
16. (Previously Presented) The packaging apparatus of Claim 7, wherein a face for pinching the tube is elastic and of a shape corresponding to a shape of tube containing the granular object.
17. (Currently Amended) A measuring and packaging apparatus for measuring and packaging a granular object constituted to adsorb a gas, comprising:
 - a packaging apparatus of Claim 4; and
 - a measuring device for measuring the granular object to be supplied to the packaging apparatus.
18. (Currently Amended) A measuring and packaging apparatus for measuring and packaging a granular object constituted to adsorb a gas, comprising:
 - a packaging apparatus of Claim 6; and
 - a measuring device for measuring the granular object to be supplied to the packaging apparatus.
19. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a package, comprising the steps of:
 - supplying a granular object constituted to adsorb a gas to the measuring and packaging apparatus according to Claim 17;
 - measuring the granular object with the measuring device; and
 - packaging the measured granular object with the packaging apparatus.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a package, comprising the steps of:
supplying a granular object constituted to adsorb a gas to the measuring and packaging apparatus according to Claim 18;
measuring the granular object with the measuring device; and
packaging the measured granular object with the packaging apparatus.
21. (New) The packaging apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:
a hopper for storing the granular object before the granular object being supplied to the charging device,
wherein the heating device heats the granular object in the hopper.